

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

August 25, 1987



ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 87-115

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY AUDITORS
ALL COUNTY FISCAL OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES OFFICERS

SUBJECT: UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINOR POLICY CLARIFICATION AND
ASSISTANCE CLAIMING INSTRUCTIONS

— REFERENCE: ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 83-23

The purpose of this letter is to provide counties with a policy clarification issued by the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) which changed the definition of Unaccompanied Refugee Minors (UMs) as it relates to the presence of relatives in the United States (U.S.). This letter also contains assistance claiming instructions applicable to those UM cases which meet the new definition.

Background

All-County letter (ACL) 83-23, dated March 21, 1983 specified that a refugee minor may retain UM status only as long as the refugee minor has no known immediate adult relative(s) in the U.S. Recent policy clarification received from ORR changed the standards established in ACL 83-23. The clarification changed the provision that a refugee child lost his/her UM status because an immediate adult relative was found residing in the U.S. by establishing that the immediate adult relative must also be willing and able to care for the child. Therefore, the mere presence of an immediate adult relative in the U.S. no longer automatically disqualifies a child from UM status. This policy clarification is retroactive to April 1983.

Regulations (Manual of Policies and Procedures (MPP) Section 69-211.1) reflecting ORR's recent definition of a UM were filed with the Secretary of State on March 20, 1987, and became effective March 20, 1987.

Claiming Instructions

The following retroactive assistance claiming instructions are applicable to those UM cases which lost their UM status, due to the mere presence of an immediate adult relative(s) living in the U.S. These cases were formerly aided under the Refugee Cash Assistance (RCA) Program, aid code 01 or 07, and were subsequently transferred to the nonfederal Foster Care Program, aid code 40.

The adjustments for such cases back to RCA is retroactive to April 1983. However, for those cases which still had time eligibility remaining when they were transferred to nonfederal foster care, ORR's reimbursement of 100 percent continued. Therefore, counties should only adjust retroactive to the month in which the refugee case became time expired.

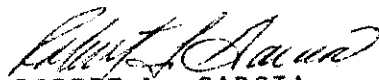
CA 800 FC

Negative adjustments of persons counts and dollar amounts must appear on line 9 of the CA 800 FC, Summary Report of Assistance Expenditures Nonfederal Children in Foster Care, for those cases which have had their RCA UM status restored. The schedule of adjustments integrated payroll/contra roll must be submitted in accordance with the requirements listed in MPP Section 25-750.

DFA 846

Positive adjustments of persons counts and dollar amounts must appear on line 9 of the DFA 846, Summary Report of Assistance Expenditures for the RCA Program for those UM cases being transferred from nonfederal foster care. In addition, UM adjustments of persons counts and dollar amounts must be identified on line 14 of the DFA 846. The schedule of adjustments payroll must also be submitted in accordance with the requirements listed in MPP Section 25-750.

If you have any questions regarding fiscal claiming instructions, please contact Ms. Stephanie Davis, Assistance Policy Unit, at (916) 323-0267. Questions regarding refugee program requirements should be directed to Mr. Don Horel, Refugee Support Management Bureau, at (916) 323-2131.



ROBERT L. GARCIA
Deputy Director
Administration

cc: CWDA
Dr. Sharon Fujii